The People's Korea

No. 974 EVERY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 26, 1979 (1961年8月22日第3種郵便物認可)

Pyongyang Proposes to Seoul to Send Unified Team to Moscow Olympics

PYONGYANG, December 20 (KCNA)—Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee, on Dec. 20 sent a letter to Pak Jong Gyu, Chairman of the South Korean Olympic Committee and Chairman of the South Korean Sports Association, proposing to the south Korean side to form a joint sports team of the north and the south and participate in the 22nd Olympic Games as a single national team and to hold talks between representatives of the sportsmen of the north and the south to discuss this question.

The letter said:

We shall greet the new year 1980 shortly.

In July of the new year the 22nd Olympic Games will open amid the common concern of a great many sportsmen.

The forthcoming Olympiad in which both the north and the south are to participate will offer a good opportunity to display the resourcefulness and honour of our nation to the world people.

In the past our sportsmen, taking close to heart the sufferings of national split experienced even in the sports field, have earnestly desired collaboration and exchange between the sportsmen of the north and the south and their joint participation in international games, and the sports organisations of both sides have repeatedly made efforts in every way to realize this desire.

But, to our regret, the efforts bent by both sides in the past have not borne the fruit hoped for and the disgraceful state continued long, in which we of the same nation confronted each other even abroad.

Today when we are entering the 1980's of great hopes amid the daily growing desire of all the fellow countrymen for reunification, we should part with the antagonism and confrontation of the past and rejoin the severed blood vein of the nation in the sports field at least and take the first historic step toward collaboration and exchange.

Proceeding from this stand, we solemnly propose to your side to form a joint sports team of the north and the south and participate in the forthcoming 22nd Olympic Games as a single national team, letting bygones be bygones.

As for the question of the participation of a single team of the north and the south in the Olympiad, the International Olympic Committee has actively cooperated in it since the 55th Munich General Meeting in 1959 and a principled agreement was reached between the two sides at the Lausanne talks in 1963. So there is an ample possibility of its realization, if the two sides earnestly deliberate about it with sincerity.

The Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee, therefore, propose talks between representatives of the sportsmen of the north and the south in Pyongyang or in Seoul or at Panmunjom on January 17, 1980 to discuss this question.

The talks, we think, would be an important occasion not only for solving the question of the participation of a single team in the forthcoming Olympiad but also for pulling down the barrier between the north and the south in the sports field and realizing all-round collaboration and exchange.

Believing that the day will surely come soon when the sportsmen of the north and the south will advance hand in hand to display the honour of our nation, I hope for an affirmative answer from your side.

Pyongyang Meeting Marks 20th Anniversary of Repatriation of Koreans from Japan

A Central Report Meeting Marking the 20th Anniversary of the Realization of the Repatriation of Compatriots from Japan was held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyonyang on December 16, according to a KCNA report.

Vice-President Kang Ryang Uk, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee Kim Man Gum, Vice-Premier Chong Jun Gi and personages concerned, functionaries of party and power bodies, men of science, education, culture, public health and the press, returnees from Japan and working people in the city attended the report meeting.

Also present at the report meeting were the members of the group of Koreans in Japan headed by Sin Sang Dae, Vice-Chairman of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan(Chongryun) and Chairman of its Osaka prefectural headquarters, which came to the homeland to extend thanks to President Kim Il Sung on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the realization of the repatriation of compatriots from Japan, and a delegation of Chongryun home-visiting groups.

Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Chong Jun Gi delivered a report at the meeting.

"The realization of the repatriation of compatriots from Japan powerfully demonstrated the invincible might and great vitality of the most superior socialist system of our country under which the people are most valued and provided with a happy life. And it made it clearer to the whole world that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the genuine fatherland of the entire Korean people at home and abroad, the beacon of hope and the banner of happiness," he said, and continued:

"Over the past 20 years, nearly 100,000 compatriots have come to the embrace of the socialist homeland in 183 batches.

"Amid the deep trust and care of the President, today one hundred and scores of repatriates are active as deputies to power bodies at all levels up to the Supreme People's Assembly and a large number of the repatriates work at important posts of the Administration Council and provincial, city and county administrative committees, directors and deputy directors of industrial establishments, chairmen or vice-chairmen of management boards or chief engineers of cooperative farms," he said.

Sin Sang Dae, Vice-Chairman of Chongryun made a speech at the report meeting.

He said that the repatriation of Korean citizens in Japan to the socialist homeland realized by President Kim Il Sung was an auspicious event which should be recorded in the 5,000 year long history of our nation and a world-startling event of great significance in human history.

He went on:

"The realization of the repatriation of Korean citizens from Japan brilliantly solved the problem of compatriots in Japan which has a protracted historical cause. Thus, it indicated a new road to the solution of the problem of overseas compatriots which had remained unsettled in human history and once again demonstrated the superiority of socialism over capitalism and the invincible attraction of our Republic, the genuine fatherland of the Korean people," he emphasized.

A Central Report Meeting Marking the 20th Anniversary of the Realization of the Repatriation of Compatriots from Japan was held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on December 16.

EDITORIAL

Continuation of "Yusin" Will Lead To Another Pusan-Masan Affair

The Oct. 26 assassination of Pak Jung Hi is closely related to a series of developments in south Korea, among others, the Y.H. incident, the expulsion of major opposition NDP leader Kim Yong Sam from the "national assembly" and the riots of people and students in Pusan and Masan.

But more importantly, the Oct. 26 incident was an inevitable outcome of the 18-year dictatorial rule of Pak Jung Hi.

During his 18-year rule over south Korea, Pak resorted to all kinds of repressive methods to suppress the movements of the south Korean people for the restoration of democracy to south Korea and the reunification of north and south Korea, but in vain.

S Korean authorities' intention to continue Pak's authoritarian regime became clearer as they conducted an election play on Dec. 6 by electing Choe Gyu Ha interim chief of state under the sharply-criticized "yusin constitution".

The "presidential" election under the "yusin constitution" means producing another "yusin president" to supplant Pak, who will follow the policies of anti-communism, confrontation with the north and of blocking the reunification of the divided country.

Newly-elected "president" Choe Gyu Ha Dec. 9 lifted "presidential emergency decree No.9" and released those who had been arrested on charges of violatin the decree.

Frankly speaking, the south Korean situation before and after the lift of "presidential emergency decree No.9" is almost the same, as the "yusin constitution" and other evil laws such as the anti-communist law, public security law and the national security law are still in force and as all those who were arrested on charges of violating these laws, are still in prison.

The remnants of the "yusin" dictatorship, for the purpose of maintaining the dictatorial regime, described the slain dictator as a "national hero."

A final investigation report on the assassination of Pak Jung Hi released by the investigation authorities indicated that the Oct. 26 incident was a personal act of KCIA director Kim Jae Kyu and was accidental, placing the blame for the killing entirely on Kim.

The official assassination report did not touch upon the backdrop of the incident nor upon the criminal records of the slain dictator.

Meanwhile, on the evening of December 12, generals of the south Korean army arrested martial law commander and army chief of staff Gen. Chong Sung Hwa with the "prior" approval of the "president" Choe Gyu Ha.

It is clear that Chong Sung Hwa was implicated in the assassination plot from his move that day and from the fact that it would have been impossible for former KCIA director Kim Jae Kyu to kill the strongman by himself.

Quick reaction of the United States to the assassination of Pak indicates that the assassination was carried out with prior approval or knowledge of Washington as Kim Jae Kyu said at an emergency ministerial conference held right after the assassination that the U.S. was behind him.

Indications are that the United States intends to hold south Korea as a more stable military base for Asian aggression by removing Pak and by easing the fascist system a little bit.

It is the greatest concern of the south Koreans for democratization of south Korea and unification that the arrest of the martial law commander and other generals was carried out by generals who had been loyal to the slain dictator and did not want the restoration of democracy to south Korea.

It is not only the military officers who fear the restoration of democracy to south Korea but the members of the Democratic Republican Party such as Kim Jong Pil who has recently stated that it will take two years for the "yusin constitution" to be revised.

After all, the south Korean ruling quarters are moving toward the direction of a continued autocratic rule without Pak.

The Choe Gyu Ha regime is a "democratic" regime in disguise.

But the south Korean authorities cannot fool all the south Korean people for long. There is a limit to the patience of the people.

If they continue to fool the people by meaningless remarks such as "gradual democratic reforms" and so on, a more grave incident will occur without fail.

The south Korean public now is moving toward the democratization of the society and toward cooperation, unity and reunification with the north.

And after all, any schemes of the U.S. government and the south Korean authorities to keep the Korean Peninsula divided into two, will lose the support of the people.

It is common knowledge among peace-loving people all over the world that the reunification of Korea is the only key to a full solution of the Korean problem and the removal of tension from the Korean Peninsula and to the peace of Asia as well as of the world.

We think that it is high time that Washington stopped egging on Seoul to stand in the way of the movement of the south Korean people for democratization of the society and that it made efforts so that the Korean question may be solved by the Koreans themselves.

Our Farewell Message To Seventies

American Korea policy is being shaken as the 1980's is coming to a close. The outgoing ten years began with the shift to the Nixon doctrine but turned out to be a decade of setbacks and disillusionment, a period of painful frustrations. The 1950's marked the beginning of the decline of American clout with the Korean War; the '60's produced another American debacle, namely, in Vietnam; and the '70's proved to be more depressing than the previous decade. The United States had to abandon its role as policeman of the world, with its prestige plummeting. It is the very Americans that are most keenly aware of this. Henry Kissinger remarked in his book *White House Years* that the period from the last years of the '60's to the early years of the '70's—when he was in office as national security adviser to Nixon—was characterized by domestic splits and international turbulance. He recalled that during that period the United States retained great influence in the world, but no longer predominant. In his inaugural address President Carter acknowledged that there were limits to the power of his country and in particular in its response to all the issues arising.

On the Korean Peninsula, a dishonorable setback awaited the United States. For long, the United States conducted intervention in the domestic affairs of the Korean people in the name of the United Nations. The Americans failed to prevent the coming of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations. They failed to prevent the passage of a UN resolution challenging their Korean policy and calling for the withdrawal of their military forces from south Korea. They were ordered to discontinue the use of the UN ensign in their military bases and disband the UNCURK. The 18 years of Pak whom they allowed to seize power in a coup in the beginning of the '60's had to brought to an abrupt end with his "yusin" regime. The assassination of the dictator Ngo Dinh Diem became a prelude to the eventual American debacle. Likewise, the assassination of Pak is certain to lead to the total collapse of American policy in Korea.

Nevertheless, the United States backtracked on its own accord. Those defeats were imposed on the Americans by the irresistible stream. Vigorous struggles were launched by many nations in demand for independence, sovereignty, and social progress, and in opposition to any attempt by outside forces to dominate them. While admitting its decline in power, the United States is anxious to stick to its untenable position of a world ruler by all means. American conduct in Korea is illustrative of such attempt. The big-stick policy of Pak was not effective any longer. The October affair in Pusan and Masan gave sobering evidence of south Korea's potentiality of becoming another Iran or Nicaragua. Given those facts, it seems that American policy toward Korea in the coming decade will be an effort to restore the facade of democratic institutions in south Korea and continue to preserve American stakes there in a more crafty manner.

Military Aspect

The relations between Washington and Seoul were strained when President Carter took over the reins of power in the United States. Koreagate was an instance of such strained relationship. The Seoul trip of Carter was intended to write it off and create a new form of American leverage on that part of the Land of Morning Calm, which met with stiff protests from the peoples of Korea and the United States. Then, what is the substance of that new relationship emerging from the Carter visit?

In June, 1973, Pak Jung Hi announced a "special statement on foreign policy" which called for the "simultaneous, separate UN membership" for Pyongyang and Seoul—adoption of the creation of "two Koreas" as a state policy. Since, the "two-Korea" policy formed the crux of the Korean policy conduct of the United States. All possible means were utilized to translate it into practice. After all, the fundamental objective of the Carter trip was to seek for a workable formula to implement the "two-Korea" policy.

The last Seoul visit was exploited by Carter to reinforce the military presence in south Korea. The Carter-Pak joint statement which ended the visit of the American chief executive to south Korea committed the United States to continue its military presence in south Korea, help the military buildup by Seoul and safeguard the security of south Korea under its nuclear umbrella. Shortly after the visit, Washington froze indefinitely the planned phased military withdrawal from south Korea, but the so-called compensatory measures, which were supposed to make up for the American pullout, were faithfully implemented, boosting the military potential of south Korea to a large extent. As of the end of last July, the United States transferred $230 million in military equipment, including 10 TOW anti-tank missile launchers with 1,000 missiles.

The following characteristic features of the military transfers warrant special attention:

Firstly, the deliveries included those sophisticated weapons which had been denied south Korea. The United States promised in its October 17 security consultations with south Korea to upgrade the status of south Korea to that of the NATO in access to American military weapons. The sale of 36 F-16 fighters—once refused—and two submarines were committed.

Secondly, while helping promote war industry, the United States agreed to co-assemble weapons with south Korea. Military sales to south Korea are reaching $900 million in 1980. During the second five-year force improvement plan to start in 1980, south Korea will receive yearly $225 million in military assistance. Agreement was reached on the co-production of some 70 F-5E's and F-5F's to begin in 1982. Hughes aircraft maker started the co-production of 500-MD helicopters for military use. Northrop is also planning to set up a concern in south Korea.

A 110,000-strong quick-response task force was created for overseas contingencies, in particular for deployment in case of a contingency in Korea. The port of Chinhae on the southern coast of south Korea became a naval station for the 7th Fleet, with a plan under way to set up the third aircraft fleet in the Korean waters. Ostensibly to compensate for the planned ground-troop withdrawal, one air force squadron, one tank battalion, one TOW missile unit were removed to south Korea. Immediately after the announcement of the freeze of the military withdrawal, the United States added two infantry battalions and one chopper unit to the American troops already stationed in south Korea. The Americans are now considering the dispatch to south Korea of a close-air support unit composed of A-10's.

These moves underline the resolve of the United States to continue to use south Korea as a huge overseas military base. They also reveal the criminal intention of the United States to create "two Koreas" at all costs. They serve to contradict the allegations about the military buildup in the north.

When Carter went to south Korea, he proposed what he termed "three-way talks" as part of the all-out efforts to perpetuate the division of Korea as two states. Clear enough the American military reinforcement in south Korea is aimed at pressuring Pyongyang to consent to "three-way talks" and to use the troop pullout issue as a card in bringing about the "trilateral talks." The alleged military buildup in the north is a frameup to conceal this ulterior intention.

What is another objective of American military buildup in south Korea? It is to force the south Korean ruling quarters to be open to American policy needs as seen in the assassination of Pak Jung Hi and the ensuing developments in south Korea. Despite the categorical American denials, everybody believes that the United States was behind the death of the dictator. That the self-admitted assasain Kim Jae Gyu said, "The United States stands behind me. Please follow me!" potently shows that the Pak assassination was authored by the Americans. It may be difficult to deny the American involvement in the arrest of martial law commander Gen. Chong Sung Hwa. Several south Korean units were mobilized to detain Gen. Chong. Practically speaking, it normally requires a considerable military force for a lower-ranking officer to attempt to arrest his superior, and particularly so in taking in martial law commander Gen. Chong, concurrently army chief of staff. Gen. Chong must have been ready to deal with any threat to his authority. Discipline is the life of a military unit. The operational control of the south Korean forces is in the hands of the American forces. The Combined Forces Command forestalls any departure from American control. How can the Americans claim that they were unware of the movement of several units of south Korean combat forces deployed along the MDL, placed under their command, to Seoul in an operation to arrest the top military leader? It is a whopping lie.

Political Aspect

A foremost concern of Washington is with political stability in south Korea, which is essential to the creation of "two Koreas." Following Carter's trip to Seoul, the Americans gave the impression that the south Korean autocrat would improve the human rights situation. Yet, it did not happen. Pak did not soften his repression of the dissident students, democrats and Opposition parties, in defiance of American recommendations and protests. The south Korean people responded with more energetic resistance to the point where riots erupted in Pusan and Masan.

On September 20 last, Hodding Carter, spokesman for the State Department, expressed grave concern over the deteriorating political situation in south Korea with the arrests of Christians, politicians and students. Then, the Carter Administration had to move to review the events in order to assure political stability in south Korea.

A particular mention should be made of the new tactic with which the United States is seeking to defuze the explosive situation by coordinating the relationships between the Opposition and the ruling quarters, while exerting influence with the ruling quarters. Each time a crackdown was clamped in south Korea, the United States expressed regrets, signalling the need to relax the human rights violations. When south Korea rejected repeated American criticisms as "outright interference," the United States defended the stand of its State Department as totally justifiable.

The situation worsened and convinced the Americans of the futility in criticizing the south Korean client. They concluded that other ways should be explored to eliminate political instability and save south Korea from the consuming crisis. The long-considered "south Korea without Pak" plan came to the fore, a key factor in the background against which the despot was gunned down.

All indications are that the United States is still in the process of screening all potential candidates for leadership to succeed Pak. The Americans are planning to handpick a genuine pro-American client in the gradual transition from the "yusin" regime to democratic order. It is clear from a remark of State Secretary Vance that the United States is ready to offer its advice whenever asked for.

Since prior to the Seoul visit of Carter, the Americans have been alternating their meetings with both ruling quarters and Opposition leaders, in a bid to engage the two in friendly talks. The aim of such move is clear: to demand restraint and talks on the two opposing camps and prevent the anti-"government" struggles from reaching the explosion point. On the recommendations of the Americans, acting chief executive Choi Gyu Ha met with Opposition leaders including Christian figures. Both ruling party chairman Kim Jong Pil and premier Sin Hyong Hwak were doing the same things. There are limits to their efforts, however.

Choi Gyu Ha once promised to talk with Yun Po Son, former "president," but unilaterally cancelled it and sent investigators to the latter's home to grill him, a fresh reminder of the policy of the ruling quarters to talk with the cooperative figures but severely deal with those not open to their overtures. This is what the Americans and the south Koreans call "democratization."

A hope was expressed by Carter that political advance would be achieved to match economic growth when he visited south Korea. The present south Korean rulers never use the terms "democratization" or "liberalization," but instead use the word "political advance." Its clear definition was not given. The things are still chaotic, although the military is clearly in charge. Choi Gyu Ha is nominally chief executive, a kind of a titular head. This fluid course of events is a good opporurity to select those loyal to American interests.

The Americans are obviously using carrots and sticks in baling south Korea out of the crisis in a way which contributes to the strengthening of American stakes there. It should be remembered that their last-ditch efforts cannot resist the powerful forward march of history with the dynamics in the national independence-seeking movement everywhere in the world like Iran. Injections may prolong the numbered days of a cancer patient but many not keep patient alive for ever or cure the cancer completely. It is a simple temporary respite. Pax Americana is gone never to return. Democracy and reunification are certain to emerge victorious in south Korea.

This is our farewell message to the last decade.

DPRK's Independent Diplomacy in Full Swing

"The Government of the Republic develops friendly and cooperative relations with other countries on the principles of complete equality and mutual respect and deals with all international issues on its own judgement and conviction. We never dance to the tune of others or allow outsiders to meddle in the internal affairs of our country. The prestige of our country as an independent and sovereign state and the dignity of our people consist precisely in the fact that the Government of the Republic firmly maintains independence."

So said President Kim Il Sung in a report delivered at a central meeting to celebrate the 30th birthday of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, held on September 9, 1978 in Pyongyang, spelling out the country's foreign policy.

RISING STATUS IN WORLD COMMUNITY

Pyongyang's independent foreign policy compatible with the Juche idea—a guiding compass of the government in all its policymaking process—is increasingly attracting more countries, irrespective of the differences of ideologies and social systems.

The DPRK has so far established diplomatic relations with a total of 101 nations in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the West, not to speak of socialist countries. This year, diplomatic ties were newly opened with four Caribbean countries— Grenada, Nicaragua, the Commonwealth of Dominica and St. Lucia.

Among other things, the DPRK has focussed attention upon strengthening unity and cooperation with the non-aligned nations, the Third World. It was admitted to the 95-nation non-aligned movement in 1975 as the sole legitimate Korean government representing the entire nation. At the sixth non-aligned summit held in Havana last September, the country became a member of the 36-nation coordinating bureau of the non-aligned countries.

This is a result of Pyongyang's strenuous principled efforts for the unity and cohesion of the non-aligned movement.

President Kim Il Sung indicated a clear-cut way to this goal as follows:

"The difference in the social system, political view and religious belief can in no way be barrier to the unity of the new-emerging countries. The commonness of the new-emerging countries is greater than their distinction and the force knitting them together is stronger than the force estranging them from one another.

"Since the non-aligned states are all opposed to domination and subordination and aspire after independence, they can unite on the basis of this common feature—aspiration for independence."

With the DPRK's prestige on the rise, the capital of Pyongyang has become a major international political scene. Last year, the green-covered historical Korean city with a population of one million strong was busy as never before, as 109 foreign congratulatory missions visited from 93 countries on the occasion of the 30th founding anniversary of the DPRK. Last April, this oriental city captured headlines of the world's press when it hosted the 35th World Table Tennis Championships with the attendance of 75 national teams including American paddlers.

STATE VISITS FROM 3 AFRICAN NATIONS

This year, Pyongyang has received three African heads of state; U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim; Deng Ying-chao, the widow of former Chinese Premier Zhou En-lai; and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, President of the Republic of Burundi visited the DPRK last March. Diplomatic relations were set up between the two countries in March, 1967. Since then, close friendship and cooperation have existed between them. In 1969, an agreement on cultural cooperation was concluded. During President Bagaza's stay in the DPRK, the two governments signed an accord on economic and technological cooperation and a general agreement on economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation.

Last October, Presidnet Ahmed Sekou Toure of the Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea flew to Pyongyang. The Guineans founded the first West African independent state in 1958, when most parts of the continent were yet to be liberated from the imperialist colonial yoke. That year, the country immediately established diplomatic relations with the DPRK earlier than other African nations.

Between the two governments, an agreement on trade and cultural cooperation and another on scientific and technical cooperation were concluded respectively in 1961 and 1968. During the presidential visit, an agreement on air transport and an accord on economic and technical cooperation were newly signed between them in Pyongyang.

The Guinean president was followed by President Luiz Cabral of the State Council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. Before his state visit to the DPRK last month, Mrs. Cabral once visited the country in 1974. What is more, earlier in 1972 when the nation was fighting a liberation war, Amilcar Cabral, the pioneer of the Guinea-Bissau revolution, came to Pyongyang. His visit had laid a foundation stone of friendship between the two nations.

Guinea-Bissau set up diplomatic relations with the DPRK in 1974 a year after its independence. On the last presidential visit, the two governments signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation, and agreements on economic and scientific-technical cooperation, cultural cooperation and air service.

An International Seminar on the Juche Idea was held in the Indian capital of New Delhi on April 14 to 16 with the attendance of Jucheologists from 65 countries and four international organizations.

There has been close bonds between the DPRK and African nations, as the former has consistently stood for the latter's struggle for freedom and independence from the beginning. Pyongyang has so far set up diplomatic ties with 44 African countries.

WALDHEIM IN PYONGYANG

Also among the VIPs Pyongyang has hosted this year was U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, who was the first topnotch U.N. official to visit Socialist Korea. It acquired an observer status in the world organization in 1973.

During his stay in Pyongyang on May 2 and 3, Waldheim was received by President Kim Il Sung. Talks were also held between the secretary-general and Foreign Minister Ho Dam. It is said that attention was focussed upon the process of Korean reunification at these meetings.

According to Waldheim, the DPRK President showed flexibility about the reunification process. The U.N. secretary-general expressed his sympathy with the reunification efforts of the Korean people themselves, an essential point consistently emphasized by Pyongyang. "Your national problem has long been of concern to the United Nations. In saying this, let me add that there is full understanding that only the Korean people can resolve the problem of the division of their country in peace. On this there is a firm consensus in the United Nations. There are many patterns of national unity. The pattern and pace for Korea must be chosen by the Korean themselves." He said this at a Presidential luncheon given in his honour.

In the same month, the DPRK also received Chinese and Cambodian dignitaries.

Deng Ying-chao, vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, visited the DPRK from May 26 to June 1. The wife of the late Zhou En-lai attended a ceremony held to unveil a bronze statue of the former Chinese premier and his monument erected in the industrial city of Hamhung to commemorate his shining contribution to Korea-China friendship. Her visit following Premier Hua Guo-feng and deputy Premier Deng Xiao-ping last year, further consolidated the indestructible bilateral friendship sealed with blood.

Then, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk was also in Pyongyang with his family. On his arrival from Beijing on May 20, he was warmly received by President Kim Il Sung at a Pyongyang airport. Their first meeting took place at the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Bandung Conference held in Djakarta in 1965.

Under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, his Royal Government of Cambodia recognized the DPRK as the sole legitimate Korean government in 1964 earlier than other Asian countries except the socialist countries. The Samdech is now based in Pyongyang, visiting Beijing and other capitals.

FREQUENT INTERCOURSE

Beside them many foreign guests have flown to Pyongyang from different parts of the world. Among them were Burmese Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha; Chairman Gert Petersen of the Danish Socialist People's Party; presidential emissaries from Egypt and Cuba; government delegations from Ghana, Somalia, Bulgaria, Malaysia, Malta and Jordan; party delegations from Sierra Leone, Benin, Burundi, China and the Soviet Union; parliamentary delegations from Bangladesh and Thailand; and a delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Among other things, with DPRK's foreign economic relations and trade expanding rapidly, the Trade Bank of the DPRK celebrated its 20th founding anniversary last September in Pyongyang, inviting 34 foreign bank delegations from China, the USSR, Romania, Yugoslavia, the GDR, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Madagascar, Pakistan, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Britain, France, West Germany, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Hongkong. The trade bank has established business relations with some 1,000 foreign banks, and the amount of foreign settlements has grown 36 times as against 1959. The country is developing trade with foreign countries all over the world on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual benefit and reciprocal accomodation.

On the other hand, various DPRK missions have flown to five continents this year.

Vice-President Pak Sung Chul, and Kim Hwan, who are both Members of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, respectively visited Libya and Madagascar as Presidential envoys from the end of last year through the beginning of this year.

Meanwhile, vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Ho Dam visited Iran as a Presidential envoy in March right after the victory of the Iranian revolution. From May through June, the foreign minister led a government delegation to Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. After his trip to three ASEAN nations, Ho Dam participated in the non-aligned foreign ministers conference held in Sri Lanka in June.

From May 8 to June 2, a party delegation headed by Kim Hwan toured France, Spain and Tanzania. In June, Kim Yong Nam, Member of the Political Committee and Director of the International Department of the Central Committee of the WPK, visited Hungary, the Soviet Union and Italy.

Premier Li Jong Ok visited Romania from September 19 to 22 after participating in the sixth non-aligned summit held in Havana. Last month, Pak Sung Chul headed a WPK delegation for Romania to attend its Communist Party Congress.

A party and government delegation led by vice-Premier Chong Jun Gi, who is an Alternate Member of the WPK Political Committee, visited Algeria and Syria. Then, he met with Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in Beirut.

Juche Mirrors Contemporary Trend

The great vitality of the immortal Juche idea founded by President Kim Il Sung underlies the ever-expanding international solidarity and friendship with the DPRK, the motherland of the contemporary revolutionary thought.

The unique concept based on the entirely new philosophical principle that man is the master of all things and decides everything, gives a scientific and revolutionary world outlook and advances a revolutionary theory attaching greatest importance to man, and strategy, tactics and methodology of revolution based on the role of the popular masses.

President Kim Il Sung, the founder of the Juche concept, defines it as follows: "In a nutshell, the idea of Juche means that the masters of the revolution and the work of construction are the masses of the people and that they are also the motive force of the revolution and the work of construction. In other words, one is responsible for one's own destiny and one has also the capacity for hewing out one's own destiny."

Today, the ranks of Jucheologists are growing day by day, involving the broader strata of the world's people. This year, Juche seminars have been held in so many countries as never before.

Among other things, the international seminar on the Juche idea was held in the Indian capital of New Delhi. It was attended by a 50-member Indian delegation including 28 MPs and several university vice-presidents, and 80 delegations and delegates from 65 countries including the DPRK and four international organizations. Such an international seminar has been held every year. Especially, in 1977 it was hosted by Pyongyang, the capital of the Juche-led Korea on the occasion of the 65th birthday of President Kim Il Sung. Then, Jucheologists gathered in Pyongyang from 73 countries and four international organizations. In April last, the International Institute of Jucheology was set up in Tokyo. It publishes the organ "Juche Idea Study" periodically.

On November 23, a national scientific seminar on the Juche idea was held in the international port city of Kobe, Japan. The 12th national seminar sponsored by the "national liaison council of societies for the study of the works of President Kim Il Sung," was attended by more than 500 Japanese Jucheologists across this country.

An appeal adopted at the seminar pointed out: "The Juche idea founded by the great leader President Kim Il Sung has become an immortal idea studied by the world people for its scientific, universal and Juche character."

"The Juche idea is a weapon held in the hands of the working masses who are struggling to live an independent life, freed from protracted domination and oppression, and the unshakable guiding principle of our era," it noted.

Besides, regional or national seminars were successively organized this year in Denmark, Honduras, Pakistan, Japan, Austria, Iraq, Gambia, Lebanon, Guyana, Madagascar, Tanzania, Sweden, Norway, Algeria and Southeast Asia and other places.

Extensive Int'l Solidarity with Korean Cause

As many as 1,200 functions were held in some 100 countries in support of the January 23 package proposal of the Pyongyang-based Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland. And, 710 functions were organized in demand of Korean reunification and the withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea during the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle (June 25-July 27). Brisk activities were also unfolded by American progressives in New York. A worldwide reunification signature campaign was actively joined by heads of state, cabinet members, MPs and mayors.

This is an outline of this year's international movement to support the Korean cause of national reunification. The outline was given by Jean Dory, secretary general of the permanent secretariat of the International Liaison Committee for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, in his report to its executive committee meeting held in Geneva on November 9 and 10. He summed up the activities of the secretariat in 1979 and set forth tasks for 1980.

According to the report, today 70 countries have already inaugurated Korea-reunion-support national committees. With regional and local bodies included, there are a total of 97 committees in 11 Asian countries plus Australia, 26 in 24 African countries, 27 in 15 European countries and 20 in 16 Latin American countries.

This year witnessed unprecedentedly vigorous and extensive international solidarity with the Korean people for their efforts for the restoration of national integrity.

Especially, in its final declaration, the sixth non-aligned summit held in Havana last September noted "Heads of state and government rejected all attempts to divide Korea into two contratry to the desire of the Korean people." "The conference recommended all countries to respect the right of the Korean people to peaceful reunification and hoped that their desire would be realized as early as possible by making all foreign troops withdraw from south Korea, disbanding the U.N. Forces Command, removing all foreign military bases and other foreign military equipment and replacing the armistice agreement with a lasting peace agreement taking into consideration the interests of the entire Korean people and their free expression," it added.

An international seminar on the reunification of Korea and human rights in south Korea was held in Geneva on November and 9. On November 27, an international women's rally to support the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was held in Tokyo.

In addition, a Latin-American and Caribbean conference for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was held in the Guyanese capital of Georgetown. As well, national meetings were organized in Bangladesh, India and many other countries.

Noteworthy is that an international signature campaign was launched from last April in support of Korean reunification upon the initiative of the Korea-reunion international liaison committee. The global campaign is now going on more than 110 countries, and the number of signatures collected has totaled 580 million as of October.

Pyongyang Flexible about Reunification

This year has seen Pyongyang's new active drive for Korean reunification, a long-awaited national desire, since the beginning of the year. It is noteworthy that its approaches have been thoroughly peace-loving and highly flexible.

NEW INITIATIVES

This was well exemplified by renewed overtures from Pyongyang to Seoul. On January 23, Pyongyang came out with a four-point reunification proposal in the name of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland (DFRF). This led to the resumption of the hitherto suspended north-south reunification talks.

The package proposal called upon Seoul: 1) to take joint action to reaffirm on February 1 the principle of the July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement; 2) to stop slandering each other; 3) to discontinue all hostile military action by March 1 and place an embargo on the introduction of weapons from abroad; and 4) to hold preliminary talks in early June for an all-Korea congress to be held either in Pyongyang or Seoul in early September, a congress embracing representatives of all the political parties, public organizations and individual persons in both north and south Korea.

This new initiative was announced at a joint meeting of the political parties and public organizations of the north affiliated with the DFRF, which was called in Pyongyang on January 23 at the proposal of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK).

In a consistent, sincere effort to reunify the divided country independently, peacefully and democratically, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has so far advanced a series of reasonable proposals on about 150 occasions. In this course the north-south joint statement officially came into being on July 4, 1972. It definitely committed both sides to joint efforts for independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity. Thus, the north-south reunification talks started amidst the great expectation of the entire nation for an early reunification of the country. But, the reunification talks were brought to a stalemate before long, due to Seoul's sabotage.

This notwithstanding, Pyongyang has not stopped its own reunification efforts, because of its serious concern about the national tragedy caused by the division.

Among other things, President Kim Il Sung newly put forth a five-point reunification proposition on June 23, 1973— 1) to eliminate military confrontation and ease tension between the north and south; 2) to realize bilateral collaboration and interchange; 3) to convene a great national congress; 4) to create a north-south confederation under a single national title; 5) to seek unified UN membership as a single state under the national title of the Confederal Republic of Koryo.

This came at a time when the divisionists at home and abroad were dead set on overt attempts to create "two Koreas" through a deceptive formula of "dual UN membership" and "cross recognition."

Despite Pyongyang's repeated overtures for reunification talks, Seoul, bent on maintaining the status quo, persisted in a negative attitude toward the proposal.

In order to pave the way by all means for national reunification, the most urgent national task, President Kim Il Sung personally reaffirmed Pyongyang's sincere intention for peaceful reunification through dialogue.

In his report at the celebration of the DPRK's 30th birthday held in Pyongyang on September 9, 1978, President Kim Il Sung said:

"The question of Korean reunification should be solved in a peaceful way through a dialogue in compliance with the demand of our people and the desire of the peoples the world over.

"The Government of the Republic is making every sincere effort to bring about a dialogue for the peaceful settlement of the reunification question and keeps an open door for dialogue at all times. We leave the door open for a conversation with the United States and with the south Korean authorities and political parties, too."

Though late, in early January the south Korean authorities expressed their willingness to hold a dialogue with the north in response to this overture. Positively taking into consideration their intention, Pyongyang spelled out a reasonable process of Korean reunification in the January 23 package.

READY FOR COMPROMISE RE DIALOGUE

In this context, the north-south reunification talks were resumed on a working level in Panmunjom on February 17. Prior to the first-round contact, the north unilaterally carried into effect the first two proposals of the four-point DFRF package as from February 1. On top of this, the north on February 20 proposed the south to form a single north-south table-tennis team for the 35th World Table Tennis Championships, which was to be held in Pyongyang in April.

But, the resumed talks were brought to another rupture after the third-round contact on March 14, because of Seoul's insincere and inflexible attitude. They persisted in a "governmental-level" contact alone through the then virtually defunct coordination commission, questioning the competency of the northern side, which represented the DFRF at the talks. Then, the north proposed to form a preparatory committee for national reunification as an instrument in the north-south dialogue, in place of the non-existent coordination commission.

To seek a compromise, the north put forward new proposals that: 1) Neither side should use the name of the DFRF or that of the coordination commission; 2) each side should be treated as a "liaison delegation of political parties, public organizations and authorities; 3) the appellations and compositions of the liaison representatives of both sides should be each other's own—the liaison delegation of the north shall be composed of representatives each from the WPK, the Korean Democratic Party, DFRF and the government; 4) both sides should confirm their stand for normalizing the already-started mutual contact and their mission to deal with the formation of a preparatory committee for national reunification.

In spite of the north's new proposal, the south unilaterally boycotted a fourth-round contact scheduled for April 2. Earlier, Seoul unfolded the largest ever U.S.-south Korea joint war games dubbed "Team Spirit '79" in and around south Korea from March 1, despite Pyongyang's proposal to discontinue all hostile military action, effective as from that day.

In a serious bid to evade another rupture of the dialogue, the north on April 2 expressed its readiness to seek a new compromise in consideration of the opposite side's view. In particular, as regards the appellation of each representation, the north flexibly indicated that whether the delegation should be called a working-level liaison representation or by any other name could be decided through mutual consultation. Nevertheless, the south eventually refused further contacts, thereby bringing the resumed dialogue to another rupture. Consequently, table-tennis talks also failed in reaching an agreement on the formation of a single national team, owing to Seoul's refusal.

The developments up to the date showed Pyongyang's sincerity and flexibility in sharp contrast to Seoul's insincerity and inflexibility.

DPRK-US TALKS WITH SEOUL AS OBSERVER

Meanwhile, Pyongyang once and again proposed to Washington to negotiate on replacing the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement, a precondition for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

This overture was made on March 25, 1974 in a letter of the DPRK's Supreme People's Assembly addressed to the U.S. Congress. Later in 1977, President Kim Il Sung in his New Year address personally urged Washington to comply with Pyongyang's peace talks proposal.

Remaining deaf to Pyongyang's reiterated calls, Washington came out with an illogical proposal for "three-way talks" in order to involve Seoul in a proposed Pyongyang-Washington talk. This U.S. proposal was made in the July 1 U.S.-south Korea joint communique released during President Carter's last south Korean visit. Then, in the so-called joint proposal, Washington and Seoul called upon Pyongyang to discuss overall questions concerning peace and the relaxation of tension on the Korean Peninsula and its reunification. What is more, the communique called for hackneyed "two-Korea" formulas such as "dual UN membership" and "cross recognition," while reassuring the continued American military presence in south Korea. This revealed Uncle Sam's unchanged intention of seeking hegemony in the region.

In a statement by a Foreign Ministry spokesman made public on July 10, Pyongyang squarely turned down the confused proposal from a logical point of view. Its justifiable standpoint is that the American job should be distinguished from the Korean—the reunification issue concerns only the Koreans themselves, while the GI pullout from south Korea and the proposed peace agreement to replace the armistice agreement involve exclusively the DPRK and the U.S. It is because national reunification is entirely an internal affair which rules out any foreign intervention, and because only Pyongyang and Washington are the very signatories to the armistice agreement.

But, in this point, too, Pyongyang showed great flexibility, saying that it was ready to allow Seoul to participate in the proposed DPRK-U.S. peace talks just as an observer in a proper stage.

At the same time, Pyongyang has kept the door still open for a dialogue with Seoul, to discuss the reunification process.

In this connection, Pyongyang's official news agency KCNA on June 26 announced that they are always ready to meet the presidents of south Korea's ruling Democratic Republican Party as well as of the opposition New Democratic Party and, moreover, representatives of any political party or organization and persons in authority or individuals in the south. Prior to this, in response to the opposition leader Kim Yong Sam's proposal of June 11 to have contact with the north as regards the reunification issue, DPRK vice-President Kim Il, who is the Member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the WPK, formally proposed to arrange a preliminary contact between the WPK and the NDP. But, a new expectation of a broader north-south dialogue was frustrated, due to the prevention of the south Korean authorities.

CONCERTED EFFORTS FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION

Even after that, Pyongyang has still continued its patriotic effort to open the door for a dialogue up to today. Its flexibility culminated in its latest call to Seoul, which came out in a Rodong Sinmun editorial dated November 9. This was the first overture from the north to the south after the assassination of the south Korean dictator Pak Jung Hi on October 26.

Saying "Let us cooperate, unite and reunify the country," Pyongyang urged Seoul to activate concerted efforts for national reunification in opposition to outside forces' attempt to fish in troubled waters. "We do not intend to ask about anyone's past records and we are ready to go hand in hand even with the companions of the south Korean dictator, if they quit the path they have hitherto followed," said the party organ.

In addition, it emphatically reiterated Pyongyang's sincere hope for peaceful reunification through a broad based dialogue without recourse to arms. It also declared that Pyongyang was always ready to meet anyone who wants a reunified Korea at any place to discuss the matter. Pyongyang has consistently advocated a democratic process of reunification through a pan-national forum involving people in all walks of life, contrary to Seoul's plea for a monopoly of the vital national issue by those in power.

EACH SYSTEM TO REMAIN INTACT

On November 21, a Rodong Sinmun article highlighted Pyongyang's long-standing advocacy of peace in Korea, explicitly repulsing Washington's renewed allegation of "threat from the north." It reassured that the north has no intention to "invade the south," and called upon the U.S. to sit with the DPRK on the proposed peace agreement.

Saying that a peacefully reunified Korea would never pose a threat to the U.S., Rodong Sinmun noted: "Even when the country's reunification is achieved, we will not try to impose communism on south Korea. Our position is to attain reunification while maintaining the two systems existing in the north and the south as they are."

This flexible position has been definitely confirmed by President Kim Il Sung himself as follows:

"We will not impose our socialist system and communist ideology on south Korea. We are ready to promote unity with any political party in south Korea according to the idea of great national unity, without regard to the present institutions of south Korea and the ideologies cherished by its people. Further, should some political party of south Korea want to come and operate in the northern half of the Republic, we will welcome it. The south Korean authorities and political parties, too, should be willing to join hands with various political parties in the north, and should not take exception to any political party of the north coming and operating in south Korea. The cause of national reunification can be expedited only when the north and the south, proceeding thus from the idea of great national unity, fully open their societies to each other and realize many-sided collaboration in all the political, economic, cultural and military fields." (a report at the Pyongyang meeting to celebrate the 30th birthday of the DPRK, September 9, 1978)

A first-round north-south contact came in Panmunjom on February 17, subsequent to Pyongyang's January 23 package proposal.

S. Korea 1979, Year of Crucial Turning Point

Its name Year of the Sheep betrayed 1979, the last year of the 1970's. It turned out to be a year of near cataclysmic changes in south Korea which today stands at a crucial turning point, with a hard choice between democracy and dictatorship, in the wake of a grave crisis befalling the present ruling quarters.

South Korea was caught in a vicious circle of built-in conflicts of the "yusin" institutions as dramatized by the ironic assassination of its creator Pak Jung Hi at the hands of his close associates. It became too apparent that the despotic rule could not last under the "yusin" regime. Restoration of democratic order emerged as a most effective way out for the crisis-ridden south Korea, while last-ditch efforts were under way to preserve the old repressive machine.

The big picture included the following developments:

- The sweet and flexible stance of Pyongyang in its repeated overtures for the negotiated reunification of the country kept alive the shared hopes and aspirations in south Korea for north-south reintegration;
- A renewed pressure for democracy by the dissidents who managed at last to form the grand alliance of the long dispersed forces—the student movement, the human rights campaign, the labour movement and the opposition parties;
- The remarkable failure of the export-first policy which produced serious dislocations of the economy and caused the chronic inflationary spiral and the impoverishment of an overwhelming majority of the population with the richer becoming richer;
- The desperate attempt to crack down on the democratic opposition movement backfired, generating sharp divisions within the ruling quarters;
- The loss of the credibility of the Seoul regime in the international community of states and in particular in the eyes of the Americans.

A severe reminder of the nature of the export-first policy, 200 female workers of the Y.H. Trading Co., sit at the Opposition New Democratic Party head office from Aug. 9, demanding the human rights and better work conditions. A 2,000-strong police raid on Aug. 11 suppressed the sit-in and killed one female worker.

Eruption of Reunification Sentiments

Hopes for north-south territorial reintegration were revived and reinforced among the south Korean people as their long-sustained top concern. A biggest contributing factor was the flexible readiness of Pyongyang for negotiation on a peaceful reunification.

This year started with the DPRK's initiative for north-south reintegration.

Deadlocked north-south talks were resumed on Feb. 17. The contacts were made three times. Pyongyang also proposed a formation of a single unified team to the 35th World Table Tennis Championships held in Pyongyang this April. North-south ping-pong talks were held four times.

In this context, public demands for the north-south contact and the reunification of the country increased.

Almost all the south Korean legislators favored north-south talks. The Tong-A Ilbo survey showed 90.4% of them expressed their support for north-south reunification talks. (Tong-A Ilbo dated Feb. 21)

With the resumption of the long-suspended north-south contact, the National Union for Democracy and National Reunification was formed on Mar. 4 in Seoul as the umbrella body of 13 organizations.

This coming on the scene represented a unanimous commitment of the people in all walks of life to the earliest reintegration of the divided peninsula. The union defied the Pak junta who limited the scope of attendance at the north-south talks by barring civilians from participation. The union in its statement called for public representation in any reunification talks, on the ground that their representation was aimed not at increasing hatred and disputes within the same nation but at achieving exchanges and unification, and peace on the Korean Peninsula, and at world peace.

The opposition New Democratic Party(NDP) president Kim Yong Sam on June 11 said in his speech that he was ready to meet with President Kim Il Sung and other responsible officials of the DPRK at any time and at any place in order to achieve the peaceful democratic reunification of the country. He denounced the Pak junta for preventing opposition forces from participating in north-south reunification negotiation.

When Pyongyang came up with another flexible proposal in the Nov. 9 Rodong Sinmun editorial, ex-"president" Yun Po Son, the dissident leader, said in his interview with Newsweek, "We should in fact, begin anew to make contacts with the north to promote some exchanges, initially in the sports and culture fields". (Newsweek, Nov. 26)

On Nov. 9 Kim Yong Sam was interviewed by a Far East correspondent of the DRS Radio Bern Helmut Rack. He said, "in my opinion, a dialogue between north and south should be promoted in a democratic way, and I think our representatives (Seoul side) to such a talk should be composed of democratic leaders.

"It is a good thing to have a talk with the north. Because both of us are the same Koreans."

Strengthened Democratic Dissident Forces

Dissident forces have strengthened as their long-overdue unity and their heavy pressures built up for the Pak Jung Hi junta to go out with its "yusin."

There lay strong popular disaffections with the continued "yusin" system and the worsening economic situation.

On March. 1 the afore-mentioned National Union for Democracy and National Unification was formed, comprising both the human rights and labour movements. The union was co-chaired by ex-"president" Yun Bo Son, ex-"presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung and Quaker leader Ham Sok Hon. The union urged in its statement declaring its formation the need to set up a democratic government and removal of Pak Jung Hi from power and his "yusin" rule.

As part of the promotion of the export-first economic policy, workers and in particular women workers were subjected to the harshest exploitation by domestic rulers as well as foreign multinationals. Thus, the labor movement came to emerge as a major force in the dissident movement for the democratization of the society.

As newly-elected NDP President Kim Yong Sam committed his party to joint forces with the National Union for Democracy and National Reunification, the grand alliance of the democratic forces became reality.

Since elected NDP president, he defied the "yusin" rule and avowed to make all-out efforts to topple the Pak junta. He appointed dissident leaders Yun Po Son and Kim Dae Jung full-time advisers of his party.

On June 4, another opposition party the Democratic Unification Party decided to form a joint action force with all the opposition forces in concert with the NDP. On June 6, 9 independent "national assemblymen" announced their decision to join the opposition NDP.

In his first speech before the "national assembly" in July, Kim Yong Sam attacked the "yusin constitution". He even demanded the resignation of Pak.

When the 200 female workers of the bankrupt Y.H. Trading Co. sought the NDP support and took a peaceful sit-in at the NDP head office, he came to associate with those women. On Aug. 11 over 2,000 police brutally assaulted 200 female workers, killing one female worker, and wounding a dozen MPs and some 30 reporters. This brutal assault provoked severe reaction among south Korean people of all sections, including opposition parties, the press and religious circles. This incident developed the struggle of workers for their right to existence into a joint anti-"government" struggle of opposition parties, democratic forces and workers, and into a political issue.

All the democratic forces, including workers, began a joint movement to overthrow the "yusin" system and democratize the society.

Being embarrassed by the unification of the democratic dissident forces, the Pak junta launched an onslaught on their movement.

Pak's crackdown came, first of all, on the NDP, which served as a rally point for all the dissident forces.

On Sep. 8 the rubber-stamp Seoul civil court ordered to strip Kim Yong Sam and other top-ranking officials of the NDP of all their posts in their party.

Kim Yong Sam was unwarrantedly expelled from the "national assembly" on Oct. 5 with sellout members maneuvering on orders from the Blue House.

This suppression by the Pak junta invited further resistance from the population.

Public resentment at Pak's tyrannical rule took proportions of riots in Pusan, Masan, Seoul, Taegu, Chinju and Chonju, from Oct. 16 to 19, bringing the situation closer to a nation-wide uprising.

Over 10 000 students and people in Pusan, the second largest city in south Korea, staged a large-scale anti-"government" campaign, the first one since the April 19, 1960, uprising. The angry students and citizens strongly demanded democratic freedom, abolition of the "yusin constitution" and resignation of the dictatorial regime. They bitterly denounced the Pak junta for their illegal ouster of the NDP president. On Oct. 18 the Pak junta clamped "martial law" on Pusan in a bid to stem the largest anti-"government" wave. Though the "martial law" was invoked in Pusan, people's riot spread to other cities. On Oct. 19, over 3,000 students and workers in Masan swarmed through downtown streets in opposition to the "yusin" rule. A "garrison decree" was invoked in Masan on Oct. 19.

For four days from Oct. 16 to 19, a total of over 25,000 students, workers and citizens demonstrated through streets of two cities of Pusan and Masan. They stormed and destroyed buildings of the government, police boxes, local offices of the ruling party and "KCIA" controlled newspaper offices. The Pusan and Masan riots were accompanied by the riots of Chinju, Chonju, Taegu, and Seoul.

In the course of a series of anti-"government" riots in October, public discontent of the Pak junta grew deeper with each passing day. This crisis startled the ruling quarters and splitted them on the course of their action. A keen realization was the urgent need to put up a new facade, divert public attention and gain time for regrouping. An unprecedented American influence was felt. The United States wanted to maintain its grip on south Korea but forestall it becoming a second Iran or Vietnam.

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10,000 Pusanites rose in a large-scale riot against the "yusin" regime on Oct. 16. The riot rapidly spread to Masan, Chinju, Taegu and other places, a traumatic affair which resembled the April 19, 1960 students' uprising with Syngman Rhee toppled.

Details of Pak Jung Hi Assassination

Pak Jung Hi was shot to death on the evening of Oct. 26 by KCIA director Kim Jae Kyu.

The assassination of Pak Jung Hi was an unavoidable result of intensifying conflicts of views and infighting within the dictatorial junta over the following developments: The beastly repression policy; the grave economic troubles caused by the second oil crisis and the consequent collapse of the "high-growth" policy; the indiscreet expulsion of NDP President Kim Yong Sam from the legislature; and riots in Pusan, Masan and in other places with signs of anti-Establishment sentiments spreading nation-wide.

The incident is also deeply related to the fact that Pak's tyranny was out of tune with the so-called "human rights diplomacy" of the U.S.

The Pak-shooting incident is neither "an accidental death" nor "a premeditated personal operation."

The Pak's assassination needed a highly premeditated and coordinated action. Consequently, it is natural to assume that a number of people conspired against the life of the dictator according to a plan prepared in advance, in which the intelligence chief was assigned the job of shooting him to death.

In this sense, Kim Jae Kyu was a mere actor in the incident, whose producer, scenario writer and heroes are elsewhere. There is no doubt that the U.S. figures significantly in the backdrop of the incident.

This is clearly seen in the arrest of martial law commander Chong Sung Hwa on Dec. 12. The arrests included Gen. Li Kon Nyong, third army corps commander, Gen. Chong Byong Ju, army special force commander, Gen. Chang Tae Wan, commander of the capital garrison, and other generals. Gen. Chon Du Hwan, CIC commander and chief investigator of the Pak assassination incident, commanded the arrests.

The CIC is normally under the control of the army chief of staff and the joint investigation team is placed under the martial law commander. In other words, Gen. Chong is a superior of Gen. Chon. Other arrested generals are also superiors of Gen. Chon. The reported approval of the arrests by "president" Choe Gyu Ha and defense minister Ro Je Hyon is practically ex-post facto consent.

Without prior permission by the top level, how could Gen. Chon, despite his post as CIC commander and his reputation within the military, manage to order into action the capital garrison troops, paratroopers and the crack front-line forces in a bid to take into custody martial law commander Gen. Chong? Gen. Chon is capable of mobilizing a small army of MP's under the CIC, but not other troops. Those in a position to alert and mobilize the garrison, the paratrooper and the front-line forces are only the Americans with the operational control over the south Korean armed froces through the UN command and the Combined Forces Command.

The operational control over the south Korean armed forces has been held by the Americans for the last 30-odd years as a key means of ruling that part of the Korean Peninsula. Loyalty to Washington has been considered essential to the south Korean soldiers.

The United States also instigated Pak Jung Hi to carry out a military coup d'etat on May 16, 1961.

Concerning the May 16, 1961 coup which brought Pak to power, the then CIA director Allen Dulles acknowledged in an interview with a BBC correspondent on May 3, 1963 that the south Korean coup was most successful during his term of office. The coup was masterminded by the American intelligence community. In those days, the State Department repeatedly denied American involvement in the south Korean change of power even by pretending to be critical of the new regime. The local chief of that coup was Pak Jung Hi. Yet, at first, Gen. Chang Do Yong came to the fore and even the then chief executive Yun Bo Son was asked to remain in office. When things calmed down after the passage of a certain period, Pak Jung Hi emerged from the background to seize all the powers and expelled both Chang Do Yong and Yun Bo Son.

The latest affair can be compared to the 1961 coup. A potent indication of this is the fact that the armed forces are in control of south Korea with an ad hoc committee to deal with the current situation organized by army leaders.

The smoothness which marked the way of conduct of the south Korean authorities in the wake of the murder of the top leader is enigmatic despite the reported sharp widespread conflicts of views among them. An emergency cabinet meeting was held at the ministry of defense and the armed forces were quick to pledge loyalty to the new leadership.

The U.S. government was also very quick to take action and was well informed of the assassination of Pak Jung Hi.

The "KCIA" director reportedly said that he had shot the dictator to death and that the U.S. was behind him.

Above-mentioned facts clearly show that the U.S. is behind the Pak-shooting incident.

Why did the Carter administration forsake Pak Jung Hi?

The south Korean junta of Pak Jung Hi had been diametrically opposed to American policy—human rights foreign policy, the plan to withdraw GI's from south Korea and further to improve relations with Peking.

The condition for the survival of the Pak junta was the continuation of the cold war on the Korean Peninsula. Collapse of that cold war structure began with the normalization of Sino-American diplomatic relations and the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese peace and friendship treaty, which jeopardized the existence of the Pak junta.

Since its defeat in Vietnam, the U.S. has moved in the direction of disengagement from Asian affairs. Such a move is attributable to Washington's realization of the "limit of American strength." As part of the move, the Korean policy of the Carter administration has been to retain control over south Korea while withdrawing its military forces from there and make south Korea continue to play the role of a citadel of anti-Communism even after the dictatorial "yusin" regime.

In short, Pak's suppressive policy was found incompatible with the human rights policy of the Carter administration.

Who ever became the ruler of south Korea did not matter for the U.S., if he remained obedient to its policy.

The conflict within the junta was over whether it should faithfully respond to the American demand.

It is impossible therefore, to think that Pak Jung Hi's death will bring about a fundamental change in political and the economic terms. This is clear from the developments in south Korea after Pak's death.

Declaring "martial law" on the whole of south Korea, the Seoul authorities leave nothing untried to put down the anti-"government" and democratic campaigns of the people for the reunification of their country and a new political system to guarantee complete freedom and democracy.

The south Korean rulers, ignoring the demand of the people and democratic forces for a new democratic constitution and a "direct election of" a "president," on Dec. 6 elected Choe Gyu Ha "interim president" through the rubber-stamp "National Conference for Unification."

This is also seen in the new cabinet lineup. Active-duty generals became the ministers of defense and home affairs and the chief cabinet secretary. The inclusion of the three generals in the cabinet represents the clout of the military establishment in policy planning.

This shows how the Seoul authorities, bent on maintaining the "yusin dictatorial system" without Pak Jung Hi, have no intention to democratize the south Korean society, and are set on following the "two Koreas" plot engineered by the U.S.

For the first time in many years, anti-American sentiments outpoured among south Korean people. Families of political prisoners staged on June 12 a demonstration on the compound of the U.S. embassy in Seoul, opposing Carter's Seoul visit. Banner read:" How can a Friend of Korean Shah Talk about Human Rights?"

How Can a Friend of KOREAN SHAH
Talk about HUMAN RIGHTS?

Dissidents Concept of Democracy

The south Korean people are fighting for the reunification of their country, while vigorously developing a struggle against the "yusin" dictatorial system and for democratization.

The independent, peaceful reunification of the country is possible through the democratization of south Korea. National reunification and democracy are not separate nor are these independent of each other.

In the Korean context, national reunification requires democracy and vice versa. The two questions are both sides of the coin. Democracy forms the cornerstone of the reunification process.

The south Korean people take an active part in a democratic struggle to realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

What the south Korean people want is a true democracy which will be guaranteed under the following conditions: to make the present "yusin" dictatorial regime resign and establish a democratic coalition government representing political parties and groupings and people of all strata and advocating democracy, independence and reunification through broad national unity; to have the "yusin constitution" and all other evil laws annulled, the "Central Intelligence Agency" and all other repressive machines disbanded, all the political and conscientious prisoners acquitted and such elementary democratic rights as freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association, religion and demonstration ensured; and to proclaim a new democratic constitution and establish a democratic constitutional government based on the division of the three powers and a nation-wide local self-government system.

These are clearly reflected in a series of a large-scale anti-"government" campaigns which have been swept the whole of south Korea in October including Pusan and Masan.

Their demand was straightly forward and outspoken: immediate replacement of the present tyrannic "yusin" regime with a democratic government.

They made it clear that if this demand was not met, they would not hesitate to use violence if necessary, even at the risk of their lives.

Slogans chanted by the demonstrators gave a list of their vital demands and revealed what they intended to attain : the repeal of the October 17, 1972 "yusin constitution"; resignation of the dictatorial regime; withdrawal of emergency decrees; guarantee of campus freedom; removal of the rich-poor gap; and the dissolution of yujonghoe (president-hand-picked MPs' group).

Since Pak Jung Hi was shot to death south Korean dissident people have demanded the abolition of the "yusin constitution," a free direct "presidential" election and restoration of democracy. Anti-Establishment people urged even the resignation of acting "president" Choe Gyu Ha who is bent on maintaining the "yusin dictatorial regime without Pak Jung Hi."

The south Korean people voice stronger criticisms of the present "government," as the "National Union for Democracy and National Unification" issued on Nov. 3 a statement demanding the removal of the one-man rule and resignation en masse of the present "government". Under such circumstances, an anti-"government" meeting and demonstration was held on Nov. 24 in Seoul.

The nation-wide anti-"government" campaign was inspired by a statement which was issued on Nov. 24 at the meeting.

The statement resolutely denounced the U.S. government, saying that the U.S. must discontinue placing in obstacles in the way of the democratization of south Korea—speeches and acts which gave the impression of U.S. support for the "yusin" remnants.

The statement demanded that a natural democratic cabinet in the transitional period should ensure all the fundamental rights of the people, freedom of the press, assembly, demonstration and association and the rights of the workers and peasants to existence.

Welfare also holds an important place in the anti-"government" campaign for democracy.

Unprecedentedly high prices and plunder have thrown the popular masses into distress, enabling only the corrupt privileged to enjoy the results of the "marvelous" economic growth much vaunted by the regime. The south Korean people demand that the three rights of labour should be restored to workers and agricultural cooperative associations to peasants.

The compradorial economic order dependent on foreign forces should be abolished because it reduces south Korea to a slavish colonial society.

The political machinery and institutions, as the system for turning south Koreans into slaves for foreign capitalists, should be completely eliminated. An export-oriented national policy should be abolished or revised. The interests of the workers plundered abroad to enrich a handful of people, should be ensured.

In this way, the south Korean people are vigorously struggling to democratize the south Korean society, aspiring after the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea.

Chronology

JAN. 23: The DPRK Fatherland Front put forward a 4-point proposal for promoting Korea's reunification.

FEB. 17: North-south contacts resumed at Panmunjom thanks to the active efforts of the DPRK. The resumed contacts were made on Mar. 2 and 14. The contacts were discontinued on Apr. 2.

20: The DPRK table-tennis association proposed to the Seoul side to form a single team to the 35th World Table Tennis Championships scheduled in Pyongyang from the end of April. The north-south table tennis contacts were held at Panmunjom on Feb. 27, Mar. 5, 9 and 12. The talks were deadlocked on Mar. 12.

MAR. 1: The 17-day south Korea-U.S. joint military exercise named "Team Spirit '79" was carried out. The war game was the largest in scale since the last war, involving 112 000 south Korean troops and 56,000 American soldiers.

4: A south Korean dissident group, led by ex-"president" Yun Bo Son, Quaker leader Ham Sok Hon and ex-"presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung, declared the formation of the "National Union for Democracy and National Unification", commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Mar. 1 popular uprising of 1919.

APR. 20: The south Korean authorities announced that U.S. President Carter planned to visit Seoul in late June.

MAY 30: Kim Yong Sam was elected president of the major Opposition New Democratic Party at the biennial convention.

JUN. 11: Newly elected Kim Yong Sam in his lecture at the foreign press club in Seoul urged replacement of the dictatorship with a democratic regime and expressed his readiness to meet a responsible person of the north for the reunification of the country.

12: Families of political prisoners staged a demonstration in protest against Carter's visit to Seoul in the U.S. embassy compound in Seoul.

18: DPRK Vice-President Kim Il proposed preliminary contacts between the WPK and the NDP to discuss the reunification of Korea.

23: Yun Bo Son and more than 10 dissidents demonstrated against Carter's Seoul visit in front of Hwasin Department Store in the center of Seoul.

25: 1,000 Koryo University students held a rally and a demonstration against Carter's planned visit to Seoul.

JULY 1: The Carter-Pak joint statement was issued in Seoul, in which Washington and Seoul proposed tripartite talks as the first step toward what they called a "meeting of responsible officials of Pyongyang and Seoul." The joint statement affirmed that the U.S. nuclear umbrella provided additional security to south Korea.

23: NDP leader Kim Yong Sam openly urged Pak Jung Hi to resign from his office in the "national assembly". He also demanded a constitution revision and abolition of the "emergency measures."

AUG. 9: Around 200 female workers of the Y.H. Trading Co. started a sit-in at the NDP headquarters as the company unilaterally closed their dormitory.

11: Over 2,000 riot police raided 200 Y.H. females staging sit-in at the NDP head office and forcibly dragged them out of the building. Kim Gyong Suk was killed by the police during the raid.

SEP. 8: The puppet Seoul district court issued a provisional order to strip NDP leader Kim Yong Sam of his party presidency.

20: 1,000 students of Seoul Univ. held an anti-"government" rally, demanding the repeal of the court order against the NDP leader.

26: 5,000 students of Rihwa Women's Univ. held an anti-"government" rally and demanded guarantee of the three labor rights and dissolution of the "KCIA".

OCT. 4: NDP leader Kim Yong Sam was expelled from the "national assembly."

16: Over 10 000 students and citizens staged an anti-"government" demonstration in Pusan.

18: Pak Jung Hi clamped martial law on Pusan.

19: The Pusan riot spread to Masan, Chinju, Chonju and Taegu. Over 3,000 students and citizens participated in an anti-"government" demonstration in Masan. The Pak junta imposed a garrison decree on Masan.

26: Pak Jung Hi was shot to death by "KCIA" director Kim Jae Gyu.

NOV. 10: Acting-"president" Choe Gyu Ha issued a statement, in which he said that a "presidential" election would be held under the "*yusin* constitution."

12: Yun Po Son urged Choe Gyu Ha to resign and denounced the U.S. for supporting the Choe "government."

24: 1,000 anti-Establishment people including Quaker leader Ham Sok Hon held an anti-"government" rally and held a demonstration under "martial law", to protest against the scheduled "presidential" election under the "present constitution," and to demand Choe's resignation.

28: About 3,000 students and citizens in Kwangju, South Cholla Province, held an anti-"government" meeting and demonstration against the planned "presidential election."

29: 200 youths massed at Pagoda Park in Chongro district, Seoul and staged a demonstration, shouting, "no presidential election under the yusin constitution!"

DEC. 6: Acting "president" Choe Gyu Ha was elected "president" by an indirect election.

12: "Martial law commander and army chief of staff" Gen. Chong Sun Hwa and a number of his fellow generals were arrested for alleged complicity in the slaying of Pak Jung Hi.

Justice Ministry Planning Computerized Control of Koreans Here

It was recently revealed that the Japanese Justice Ministry is now planning to computerize the alien registration business in a bid to strengthen the surveillance over Korean residents here.

Basic information to be fed into computers is now being gathered as a survey is under way of the present status of the alien registration business at all the prefectures, cities, wards, towns and villages throughout the country.

A scheme is afoot to amend the "Alien Registration Law" for the worse at the next Diet session.

All prefectural alien registration chiefs were instructed on Oct. 5 to report on their job by December 10 by the director of the alien registration affairs of the Immigration and Emigration Control Bureau under the Justice Ministry.

The aim is obvious: to get comprehensive information of the present alien registration business, to set it straight and to make basic dossiers for use in the introduction of computers.

The introduction of computers into administration affairs, especially into resident registration affairs, met a strong opposition of the broad masses of the Japanese people, as it violates their basic human rights and privacy and as it forces them accept their all-nation code number.

This is also true of alien registration. Japanese lawyer Sasaki Hidemori commented on the planned computerization.

"If computers were introduced in alien registration business, it would be most likely that fortunes, families, ideological tendency and all other registration articles would be recorded. In this case, basic rights and privacy of Korean residents would seriously be prejudiced."

The UN Secretary-General also pointed out in his report:

"If all the available information are fed into a computer and in particular any personal record computerized, it is tantamount to putting the sword of Damocles over everybody."

The Japanese Justice Ministry is fully reexamining both the "Alien Registration Law" and the "Immigration and Emigration Control Ordinance." The Justice Ministry has an intention to change the "Alien Registration Law" for the worse at the next Diet session.

The "Alien Registration Law" has been "amended" for several times, but each time it was in reality a "change for the worse."

The Japanese Justice Ministry strengthened the regulations in 1949, by making compulsory "renewal in every three years" of the alien registration cards and the "unified numbering system" and in 1952 "fingerprint registration" became mandatory.

The "Immigration and Emigration Control Bill" which is a retrogressive revision of the "Immigration and Emigration Control Ordinance" has been laid before the Diet for several times. However, the bill became null and void each time, because of the struggle of Koreans here and the Japanese people.

The Justice Ministry says that "we cannot say" how the "Alien Registration Law" and "Immigration and Emigration Oridnance" will be amended as it is "still in examination." However, it is speculated that the amended laws will strengthen the suppression of Koreans here.

The "Sakanaka thesis" deserves special attention as it is appraised as a "model thesis" in the examination of the policy of the immigration and emigration control.

The "Sakanaka thesis" urges that the power of the Justice Ministry be strengthened to deal with "hostile foreigners" under a "state of emergency", indicating the motive behind the introduction of computers into alien registration business.

Lawyer Date Akio, representative of the "Central Council to Oppose the National Numbering System and to Preserve Privacy of the Citizens", said: Computers will be introduced to strengthen the "Alien Registration Law" and the "Immigration and Emigration Ordinance," to complete the control system. We can understand that the introduction of computers is aimed at "security maintenance" if we review the contents of the "surveys." To cope with such a move by the Justice Ministry authorities we have to have the highest vigilance and unfold opposition movement."

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NOTES: The "Alien Registration Law"—The "Alien Registration Law" was enforced on April 2, 1952. Since the enforcement of the "Alien Registration Law," Koreans living in Japan have been subjected to harsh oppression by the Japanese authorities, and many deported to south Korea on the excuse of violations of the procedures for registration.

The "Immigration and Emigration Control Ordinance"—The "Immigration and Emigration Control Ordinance" was enforced on November 1, 1951. The "Immigration and Emigration Control Ordinance" is primarily to keep control over Koreans in Japan who account for 90 per cent of all the foreigners in Japan. It has been instrumental in the deportation of Koreans from Japan to south Korea.

Brief Korean History (40)

March First Popular Uprising

With no policy of medieval suppression and massacre were the Japanese imperialists able to force the Korean people to give in.

The working class of Korea, though in its embryonic stage, actively participated in the anti-Japanese struggle from the first. Although a strike was considered a "crime" under the Japanese medieval suppressive policy, the working class waged powerful strikes against the Japanese aggressors and capitalists. The number of strikes reached 50 in 1918 alone.

The peasants rose in a struggle against the plunder of their land and forests by the Japanese imperialists. In 1912, more than 2,000 peasants protested against and launched an attack on the Japanese aggressors in Kimhae, S. Kyongsang Prov. Anti-Japanese volunteers' struggles and patriotic cultural and political movements, which had been unfolded since before the Japanese occupation, continued after 1910.

The Korean people's burning aspiration for the liberation of their fatherland and for national independence and their wrath against the Japanese imperialists erupted at last in an all-nation, anti-Japanese popular uprising on March 1, 1919.

On March 1, hundreds of thousands Seoul citizens rose and staged a large-scale anti-Japanese demonstration. The demonstrators enthusiastically shouted, "Japanese residents and troops, get out!" and "Long live Korean independence!"

On the same day, a meeting was held in Pyongyang to expose and denounce the crimes of the Japanese imperialists and their puppets. The participants held an anti-Japanese parade, shouting "Long live Korean independence!"

Alarmed at the fierce demonstrations by the masses of people, the Japanese aggressors fully mobilized military police and civilian police and made them shoot a large number of patriots to death. However, this did not dampen the patriotic spirit of the masses of people.

The fire of the March First Popular Uprising quickly spread throughout the country from Chunggang to Chaeju Island, and even among Koreans in foreign lands such as China, Japan and Hawaii.

As soon as the flames of resistance spread throughout the country, the bourgeois nationalists belonging to religious and educational organizations, renounced their independence movement and tried to achieve independence through their bourgeois ideologies.

The bourgeois nationalists, veering toward flunkeyism, left the registance movement of the masses and tried to achieve independence by depending upon the outside forces such as the U.S. imperialists.

They tried to prevent the masses of people from advancing along a re-revolutionary course by instilling into them the ideas of "independence through a petition movement" and the principle of nonresistance.

Workers and peasants, armed with axes and clubs, rose in a revolt and made an attack on Japanese police and administrative offices.

The March First Movement was participated in by more than 2,000,000 people— men and women, young and old from all walks of life.

Confronting the Korean people's struggle, the Japanese imperialists savagely murdered unarmed masses in Suwon, Maengsan, Taegu, Milyang, Hyopchon, Namwon, Chinju, Mokpo, Chechon, Changdan, Chongyang, Chonam, Pyongyang, Uiji, Kanggye, Haman, Kwaksan, Sakju, Pyongsan, Changsong, Mungyong, Hamhung and other areas.

The massacre which occurred in Suwon in April 1919, was a typical one. At that time, a Japanese soldier was shot to death near Suwon. Taking advantage of this, the Japanese police confined Korean people to a church and set fire to it. The Japanese imperialists continued murdering and shooting for three days. As a result, thousand people were killed.

The Japanese imperialist aggressors took increasingly suppressive measures against the Korean people who continued their just struggles for freedom and independence.

Even according to incomplete statistics of the Japanese imperialists, from March 1 to the end of May, 1919 alone, 7,509 were killed, 15,961 were wounded and 46,948 arrested.

When the Korean people rose in the March First Uprising and when the Japanese imperialists were bloodly suppressing them in blood bath, the U.S. imperialists openly apologized for the Japanese imperialists' atrocities and applauded the Japanese occupation of Korea.

The U.S. imperialits said that the Korean people's independence movement was a "foolish act" and that the Korean problem was a Japanese internal affair." "It does not appear that Japan took specially ruthless measures," they said.

Although the March First Popular Uprising proved to be a failure due to the lack of leadership and because of obstructions placed by flunkeyist bourgeois nationalists, the uprising fully demonstrated the Korean people capacity for united action and their mettle as indomitable fighters.

(Concluded)

A large number of Koreans were harshly suppressed and murdered by the Japanese imperialists.

News Dispatch from Pyongyang

Dec. 7

* Hwang Du Ho, new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the Kingdom of Nepal, presented his credentials to Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, king of the country.

Dec. 10

* Mathieu Kerekou, President of the People's Republic of Benin, met the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Yang Hyong Sop on a visit to Benin.

Dec. 12

* Kim Gil Hyon, new Ambassador Extrordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the German Democratic Republic, presented credentials to Erich Honecker, Chairman of the Council of the State of the GDR.

* A protocol of the eleventh meeting of the Standing Committee of Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the DPRK and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania was signed in Tirana.

Dec. 17

* A delegation of the State Film Committee of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union headed by its First Vice-Chairman N.Y. Sichov, arrived in Pyongyang by air.

Dec. 18

* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kong Jin Tae, Member of the Central Committee of the WPK and Vice-Premier of the Administration Council, left Pyongyang by plane to attend the First National Congress of the Party of National Unity and Progress of Burundi. (KCNA)

World Bulletin

● The Government of the National Reconstruction of Nicaragua decided to found a special fund for anti-unemployment campaign in order to do away with unemployment.

● The People's Revolutionary Government of Grenda recently drew up the 1980 plan for housing construction.

● A meeting of the heads of state and government of the economic community of countries on the shore of the great lakes in the central part of Africa was held.

● A new bridge over the River Danube is under construction in Yugoslavia.

● The Mozambican Liberation People's Army has repulsed repeated attacks of the army of the Rhodesian racist clique since late November.

● A Guyanese paper and the Malagasy News Agency denounced the aggressive schemes of U.S. imperialism.

● The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union made public a decision on commemorating the 110th anniversary of Lenin's birth.

● Khomeini, Islamic leader of Iran, declared in Qom that Iran would not fear "economic blockade" or military intervention of the United States and if it launch an attack, Iran would bury U.S. troops.

● Recently Bahrain Government nationalized the Bahrain Oil Company. (KCNA)

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A new catchword was "political advance commensurate with economic growth."

Against this backdrop came the assassination of Pak Jung Hi on Oct. 26. Pak Jung Hi was shot to death by his confidant, "KCIA" director.

Stronger Demands For Democracy

Demands became stronger that with Pak's death his legacy of "yusin" should be disinherited at once: the withdrawal of the "yusin constitution," adoption of a new democratic constitution, revocation of "emergency decrees" and release of all the political prisoners and freedom of political activity.

In defiance of the popular demands, however, the ruling quarters including acting "president" Choe Gyu Ha moved to retain the "yusin" system for the time being.

Choe on Nov. 10 issued a statement and revealed the "presidential" election under the "yusin constitution." On Dec. 6 an indirect "presidential" election was carried out by the "National Conference for Unification," a rubber-stamp electoral college. On Dec. 21 he was sworn in as the successor of the slain dictator.

The democratic dissidents from all strata stiffened their posture. Choe's resignation was demanded and the U.S. denounced for continuing to support the anti-popular "government".

A series of statements were made public by the dissident groups including opposition parties. Students and journalists who kept silence since Pak's assassination rose to demand the campus democracy and freedom of speech as well as the repeal of "yusin constitution."

Strong protest action came on Nov. 24. That day about 1,000 anti-Establishment people gathered at the YWCA building, in Myongdong, Seoul, where anti-"government" rally—billed as a "wedding" was held under "martial law." The rally was attended by key figures of the dissident movements. A strong-worded manifesto was read demanding the replacement of the ruling circles. Protesters took to the streets and clashed with the police.

This anti-Establishment action brought a chain reaction. Over 3,000 students and citizens in Kwangju, South Cholla Province, followed the Nov. 24 dissent. On Nov. 29, 200 youths staged demonstration at Pagoda Park, Seoul. 1,000 of Seoul Univ. students, 500 Koryo collegians and 2,000 students of Chonnam Univ. rose to the struggle on Nov. 27, and 30.

The ruling quarters have strengthened crackdown on dissidents. More than 200 dissidents in Nov. 24 rally had been arrested. It is reported that the arrested were savagely beaten by the police. The ruling quarters have consolidate its stance to continue "yusin system without Pak". On Dec. 12, "martial law commander" and army chief of staff Gen. Chong Sung Hwa and a number of his fellow generals were arrested for alleged complicity in the slaying of Pak.

The core of the matter is an intensifying power-jockeying within the military in a way which characterized the post Ngo Dinh Dien in South Vietnam. Such infighting is normally allowed by the American to develop as it is, in a way to handpick the survival of the fittest. The principle is that the Americans are virtually in control.

If the caretaker government is unwilling to dismantle "yusin constitution" and continues hard lines, more serious popular protest will be invited. Ex-"president" Yun Bo Son said, "No one trusts the government. The demonstrations will spread all across the country." (U.S. weekly NEWSWEEK dated Dec. 10)

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Outpouring Anti-U.S. Sentiments

Anti-American sentiments grew among the south Korean people. South Korea had been the only place where anti-American sentiments did not surface although the U.S. controlled there.

Strong criticism to the U.S. came when the U.S. President Carter's visit to Seoul was made clear. In protest against Carter's Seoul visit, families of political prisoners stormed the U.S. embassy on June 12 and they staged demonstration on the embassy compound, holding banner "How Can a Friend of Korean Shah Talk about Human Rights?" On June 23, ex-"president" Yun Bo Son and other dissident people took to the main streets of Seoul, denouncing Carter's planned trip. More than 1,000 Koryo students held a demonstration, opposing Carter's visit.

NDP leader Kim Yong Sam Sep. 16 interview with the New York Times said: The time has come for the United States to make a clear choice between a regime, increasingly alienated from the people, and the majority who aspire to democracy.... We asked him (Carter) not to come, precisely because it could encourage Pak to strengthen oppression, and all this came true."

Protesting against the "presidential" election under the "yusin constitution," ex-"president" Yun Bo Son Nov. 12 hit the U.S.

Noting that the U.S. State Department issued a positive statement supporting it within minutes of Choe's Nov. 10 announcement, he said: Judging from the fact it came so quickly, I think they had an exchange of views in advance. If the U.S. supports Choe's formula this time it wll be making another political blunder.

Brief News From S. Korean Dailies

8 Women Killed in Rubber Plant Fire

A fire at a rubber goods manufacturing plant in Pusan left eight women workers dead and 22 others injured on December 6, many of them seriously. The eight met their death while working at the Sechang Rubber Goods Manufacturing Plant in Kumsadong, Tongnae-gu.

The blaze broke out in a workshop in the first floor of the second-story cement building, in which employees were mixing raw rubber with chemicals, at around 9:10 a.m. At the time of the fire, more than 100 women, young and old, were said to have been working in the plant which was gutted by fire.

A witness said that most of the victims were either burned or suffocated to death. (*The Korea Herald*, December 7, 1979)

Major Cities Suffer Housing Shortage

Housing problems turned out to go from bad to worse in the industrial cities in the provinces other that in Seoul. This was revealed in a housing survey conducted recently by the Korea Land Development Corporation covering 40 major citizens for three months beginning June 20 this year.

The survey showed that the third largest city of Taegu was worst in the dwelling situation with 49.5% of housing shortage rate, followed by Kumi, a newly created industrial estate located near Taegu, with 49.3%, Masan with 47.8% and Ulsan with 45.6%.

The population in the 40 cities covered by the survey totaled 19,697,463, accounting for 53.8% of south Korea's population of 36,628,485. It means 4,230 persons per square kilometres in the density of population.

(*The Korea Herald*, December 7, 1979)

34,600 Ulsan Residents to Be Relocated over Pollution

The Ulsan city government plans to relocate 7,484 households of 34,600 residents to safer places by 1983 as they severely suffer from pollution due to waste waters and others from the industrial complex, it was learned on December 8.

The areas to be evacuated cover a total of 4,226,000 pyong, which the city government intends to buy as sites for new industrial plants. According to city government officials, a total of 185 plants are emitting pollutants into the air and the rivers. (*The Kyongje Sinmun*, December 9, 1979)

Fishers Suffer Damages of 1 Billion from Waste Water

A total of 1 billion won worth damage has been inflicted on the seaweed farms by waste waters from the Onsan Industrial Complex of Ulsan, it was learned on December 12.

The affected areas comprise 620,000 square metres of seaweed farms and 1,620,000 square metres of a common fishing bank, involving 334 fishing households (2,637 people).

According to complaints by the fishermen at Sobong ri, Rijil, Onsanmyon, Ulsan county, they expected to reap 8,228 tons of seaweeds which would bring a profit of 1,040 million won, but waste waters destroyed the more than 90% of the farms. (*The Dong-A Ilbo*, December 12, 1979)

Contamination on Coastal Areas Become More Serious

The coastal waters of south Korea have steadily been contaminated by heavy metals such as cadmium, iron, zinc, and lead, it was disclosed on December 1 by the Korean Institute of Science and Technology's marine development centre.

According to a survey of the quantity of heavy metals in coastal waters of south Korea, covering important areas like Inchon, Ryosu, Gunsan and Ulsan, 2,332 ppb of iron was detected in the sea off Inchon, the most serious pollution point; 1,412 ppb for Gunsan; 361 ppb for Ryosu; and 433 ppb for Mokpo—403 ppb on the average.

The figure compares with 2.51 ppb for the Bristol Channel of United Kingdom, showing 200 times in intensity.

In case of zinc, 44 ppb was measured in the Inchon coast, 39.9 ppb in Ulsan and 29 ppb in Gunsan—25.5 ppb on the average, 3-5 times the figure of 9.3 ppb in the Bristol Channel.

As for cadmium, the most harmful element to man's health, 0.76 ppb was detected in the Ulsan coast and 0.51 ppb in the Ryosu, 2-3 times the British figure of 0.27 ppb at the Liverpool Bay.

Lead of 11.1 ppb was detected in the Ulsan coast, 10.7 ppb in the Gunsan, and 9.3 ppb in the Ryosu, 10 times the British coastal figures. At the mouth of the Kum River flowing through Gunsan, 20 ppb was detected, attributed to waste waters from the nearby industrial complex.

Oceanographers attribute the deteriorating contamination of the coastal waters to wastes discharged from industrial plants and ill-advised application of agriculture chemicals.

(*The Seoul Kyongje Sinmun*, December 2, 1979)

VD Cases Spreading to Industrial Belts

Syphilis cases are rampant among industrial workers, it was learned on December 4. According to a medical checkup of workers of the Pohang area by Prof. Ryom of the medical school of Koryo University, 24% of the workers examined carried with them syphilis.

Indications are that, other VD cases added, the actual VD patients may be far greater in number. (*The Hanguk Ilbo* December 6, 1979)

Hair Dyes Contain Cancer-Causing Element

Hair dyes on the market have been found containing a cancer-causing element, known as PPDA, it was disclosed on December 3 in an analysis of the goods by Prof. Kuk of the hospital attached to the medical school of Rihwa Women's University.

Prof. Kuk said that PPDA, found in large quantities in hair dyes, is an industrial dye usually for the use in printing and dyeing clothes, but he warned that the dyes have been restricted in many countries as a cancer-causing element.

Prof. Kuk warned women against such hair dyes on the grounds that their use may result in the birth of deformed babies. (*The Seoul Kyongje Sinmun*, December 4, 1979)

Worker Paid 5-Kg Coins in Retaliation

A woman factory worker has received her unpaid salary of 50,396 won in 10-won and 100-won coins which weighted more than five kilograms apparently in retaliation for her repeated requests for the settlement of overdue pay.

Miss Kim Po Sun, 18, living in Pison-dong, Taegu, quit her job last July becasue she thought the labor conditions at her factory were unsatisfactory. She received her salary last week in 10-won coins. (*The Korea Times*, November 21, 1979)

Visit to Scenic Spots in Korea (*14*)

Mt. Paekdu

Mt. Paekdu is found in Samjiyon county, Ryanggang Province. This mountain (2,750 meters high) is the highest and the biggest in the DPRK. It was born about 3 million years ago. As its top always looks white with snow and volcanic ash which cover it every season, it is called Mt. Paekdu (Mt. white-head).

Mt. Paekdu stands between the two long rivers: the Amnok River (821km) flowing on its southeastern side and the Tuman River (520km) on the eastern side, both bordering on China.

The mountain is famous not only for its height but also for its scenic beauty.

On the top of the mountain, there is Lake Chonji, the nation's biggest natural lake with a depth of 300 meters. High cliffs surround the lake, 1.8 kilometer in circumference. The lake is filled with crystal clear water and its surface looks just like a giant mirror. In winter it is covered with 4-meter-thick ice. In summer, after a shower, it becomes foggy and exudes mysterious beauty.

Around Lake Chonji are many peaks—the Changgun, the Mangchonhu, the Paekamsan, the Chaeilbong and the Chungamsan peaks. Among them, the Changgun Peak is the highest, standing 2,750 meters high.

Mt. Paekdu is the place where President Kim Il Sung led the anti-Japanese guerrilla fighters to fierce struggles for the liberation of the country in the 1930s.

There are many revolutionary sites on the mountain. Among them are places where guerrilla fighters camped, various battlefields and some cabins, fighters used as meeting places or wards. There is a cabin where the President worked out strategies and tactics for national liberation.

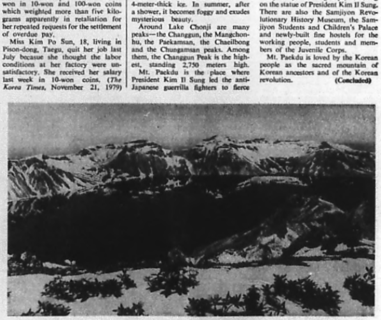
The mountain is rich in medicinal herbs and edible plants. About 100 kinds of medicinal herbs and over 110 kinds of plants are found there. These plants were used as medicines and food by guerrilla fighters, greatly helping them in their anti-Japanese struggles.

There also grow many beautiful alpine plants such as yellow rhododendrons and mountain chrysanthemums.

The famous Lake Samjiyon is found at the southeastern foot of Mt. Paekdu. By the lake, there stand many sculptures in groups, centering on the statue of President Kim Il Sung. There are also the Samjiyon Revolutionary History Museum, the Samjiyon Students and Children's Palace and newly-built fine hostels for the working people, students and members of the Juvenile Corps.

Mt. Paekdu is loved by the Korean people as the sacred mountain of Korean ancestors and of the Korean revolution.

(Concluded)



Lake Chonji, on the top of Mt. Paekdu, the highest in the DPRK separating China and Korea

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